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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/821,191	03/29/2001	Martin A. Kenner	56095US002	4517
32692	7590	02/17/2006	EXAMINER	
3M INNOVATIVE PROPERTIES COMPANY PO BOX 33427 ST. PAUL, MN 55133-3427			DURAN, ARTHUR D	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			3622	

DATE MAILED: 02/17/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/821,191

Applicant(s)

KENNER ET AL.

Examiner

Arthur Duran

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 30 January 2006.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-76 and 78-86 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-76, 78-86 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

1. Claims 1-76 and 78-86 have been examined.

Response to Amendment

2. The Amendment filed on 1/30/06 is insufficient to overcome the prior rejection.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

The following is a quotation of the first paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall contain a written description of the invention, and of the manner and process of making and using it, in such full, clear, concise, and exact terms as to enable any person skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and use the same and shall set forth the best mode contemplated by the inventor of carrying out his invention.

Claim 29-69, 71-74, 76, 79, 80, 81-85, 86 rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the enablement requirement. The claim(s) contains subject matter which was not described in the specification in such a way as to enable one skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and/or use the invention.

Claim 29 and 41 and 86 state ‘without resort to a cut or copy operation’. However, the words ‘cut’ or ‘copy’ or their derivatives do not appear anywhere in the Applicant’s specification. Also, the dependent claims upon independent claims 29, 41, and 86 are not supported either since they are dependent claims.

Claims 70-74 and 81 are not supported by the Applicant’s Specification. The word ‘assimilation’ nor any of its derivatives appears in the Applicant’s Specification. Also, the only references to any ‘drag and drop operation’ or any dragging or dropping in the Applicant’s Specification appears in Paragraphs [39] and [40] below. These paragraphs state only that:

“[0039] The attachment location may be identified by clicking a cursor over a

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location to which the received content is to be attached. Alternatively, the attachment location can be a predetermined location within a window that is open and is active at the time that the received content is made to appear on the screen display. As a further alternative, when the received content first appears on the display screen of the content recipient's network enabled device, the received content may be un-attached. However, when the received content is dragged and dropped at a new location, it automatically attaches to the window or desktop under the cursor at the time of dropping. As a still further alternative, by clicking a first time on the received content and a second time at a desired location, the received content can be attached to the desired location as indicated by the cursor at the time of the second click.

[0040] Attachment may have one or more of the following attributes: the received content is made to appear whenever the location to which it is attached is made to appear or is visible; the received content is made to disappear whenever the location to which it is attached is made to disappear or is not visible; the received content is made to move whenever the location to which it is attached is moved, such as by scrolling or otherwise; the received content is automatically de-attached from a first location and re-attached to a second location whenever the received content is dragged from the first location and dropped at the second location; and/or the received document can be de-attached from one area of a display, such as a first window, and can be re-attached to a second area of the display, such as a second window. Attachment may have different attributes as well so that the attributes listed above are meant to be exemplary only.”

There is no mention in these paragraphs, or anywhere in the Applicant's Specification, concerning the drag and drop feature relevant to assimilation. There is no mention in the Applicant's Specification of any special features relevant to the drag and drop that is beyond the obvious meaning of the drag and drop features in a computer display environment.

Also, note that because Applicant's claim 81 is not supported, neither are the dependent claims 82-85 which are dependent upon claim 81.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

3. Claims 1-76 and 78-86 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Angles (5,933,811) in view of Goldhaber (5,794,210).

Angles discloses posting a note on a first computer at a content provider, wherein the note has content, and wherein the content provider is a first party (Fig. 4; Fig. 6; Fig. 9; Fig. 10);

electronically engaging in an activity arising from the content of the note, wherein the activity is performed by a content recipient on a second computer, and wherein the content recipient is a second party (col 21, lines 25-30); and,

providing payment to a third party based upon the activity (col 4, lines 40-47; Abstract, 'credits an internet provider account').

Notice in Angles that a reference for advertising can be placed at the content provider (Fig. 4 and Fig. 6) and that advertisements can be downloaded to the user directly from the advertisement provider (Fig. 10) and/or thru the content provider who obtains the advertisements from the advertisement provider (Fig. 9) and/or thru from the consumer/recipient computer which downloaded the advertisements from the advertisement provider computer (Fig. 4).

Also, notice in the above citations that the note can be downloaded without resorting to a cut or copy operation and without downloading a web page of the content provider.

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As disclosed above, Angles discloses the users being rewarded for viewing the advertisement/note. Angles further discloses the user making purchases online and performing other online activities such as clicking on an advertisement/note to access more information about a product (col 6, lines 15-31; col 4, lines 5-16).

Angles does not explicitly disclose the user being rewarded for these other activities.

However, Goldhaber discloses the user being rewarded for a variety of activities incited by an advertisement/note (col 7, lines 60-65; Claim 14; col 11, lines 31-40).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to add Goldhaber's rewarding a variety of activities to Angle's user performing a variety of activities of interest to an advertiser and an advertiser rewarding a user for advertisement related activity. One would have been motivated to do this in order to provide more capability for inciting and rewarding different user actions of interest.

In particular regards to claims 70, 72, 74, Examiner notes that Goldhaber discloses these features. Goldhaber further discloses the utilization of icons (Fig. 4; col 11, lines 7-25).

Examiner notes that icons are draggable and droppable.

Goldhaber further discloses drag and drop content:

“(59) The World Wide Web allows anyone to maintain public "home pages" that are visible to all, and are accessible to all with optional name-password access restrictions. The system provided by the present invention adds the capability of maintaining private home pages that are accessible and visible only to their owners. Another example feature of these pages is the capability of "dragging and dropping" content between one's private and public home pages” (col 8, lines 50-57).

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In particular regards to claims 78, 79, 80, Examiner notes that the note can be automatically downloaded to the recipient separately from the web page (Angles, Fig. 10).

In particular regards to claim 85, Examiner notes that the content can suggest something (Angles, col 2, lines 4-12; col 4, lines 5-17).

Also, Angles discloses utilizing Internet service providers, content providers, advertisement providers, and user computers (col 4, lines 26-47; Abstract; Fig. 2).

Angles discloses that a variety of parties such as the content provider, internet service provider, or user can be rewarded for performing certain actions:

“(104) In addition, the ability to monitor the number of advertisements displayed by a particular content provider computer 14 provides a number of advantages. For example, the advertisement provider can pay the content provider based on the volume of advertisements actually displayed by the content provider computer 14. This frees the content providers from having to generate advertising data, from having to individually contact advertisers, from having to negotiate advertising payment fees, and from having to maintain an advertising administrative staff;

(105) Furthermore, because the preferred embodiment also is capable of storing a consumer's Internet provider account number in the registration database 68, the preferred embodiment can monitor the number of advertisements viewed by consumers associated with a particular Internet provider 34. Accordingly, the invention can pay an Internet provider 34 based on the number of advertisements viewed by its consumers. The Internet providers 34 can then use this advertising revenue to reduce consumer access fees. Alternatively, the preferred

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embodiment can pay a consumer for viewing advertisements by crediting a consumer's Internet provider account;

(106) In addition, because the preferred embodiment also is capable of storing a consumer's digital cash account, the preferred embodiment can pay the consumer with digital cash each time the consumer views an advertisement. This allows the consumer to obtain digital cash which the consumer can use to purchase other goods and services offered for sale on the Internet 33” (col 16, lines 15-45).

Angles discloses sending information/note from consumer computer to user computer:

“(140) Proceeding to state 802, the advertising module 62 selects and retrieves the customized advertisement 30 from the advertising database and sends the customized advertisement 30 to the consumer. In the preferred embodiment, the customized advertisement 30 is stored in a HTML format, and the advertising module 62 uses the HTTP protocol to send the customized advertisement 30 to the consumer computer 12, where the customized advertisement 30 is displayed within the electronic page sent to the consumer computer” (col 20, line 64-col 21, line 5).

Angles discloses that the user selects advertisement to receive more information on that advertisement:

“(136) If the consumer desires to obtain more information about a good or service appearing in a customized advertisement 30, the consumer selects the customized advertisement 30 and proceeds to state 718. When the consumer selects the customized advertisement 30 during state 718, the consumer control module 42 sends a message to the advertising module 62

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that the consumer has selected the customized advertisement 30. In response, the advertising module 62 stores the message in the accounting database 72” (col 20, lines 17-27).

Angles discloses that a content provider can provide wide range of services to the user:

“(148) The embodiment shown in FIG. 9 allows the customized advertisements 30 to be incorporated directly into the content provider's offerings. Thus, in addition to integrating the customized advertisements 30 in to an electronic page 32, the content provider computer 14 can integrate the customized advertisements 30 into offerings such as on-line games, video programming, internet radio, virtual reality environments and the like” (col 21, lines 51-60).

Angles discloses downloading the note separate from the regular content:

“(15) In the preferred embodiment, the invention is directed to delivering custom advertisements to consumers who use their computers to view information offered by different content providers existing on the Internet. Preferably, when a consumer accesses a content provider, the content provider transmits an electronic document to the consumer. Embedded within the electronic document is a advertisement request. When the consumer's computer displays the electronic document, the embedded advertisement request directs the consumer computer to communicate with an advertisement provider. In response, the advertisement provider provides a customized advertisement. The advertisement provider then tracks the consumer's response to the customized advertisement (col 2, line 59-col 3, line 5);

(140) Proceeding to state 802, the advertising module 62 selects and retrieves the customized advertisement 30 from the advertising database and sends the customized advertisement 30 to the consumer. In the preferred embodiment, the customized advertisement 30 is stored in a HTML format, and the advertising module 62 uses the HTTP protocol to send

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the customized advertisement 30 to the consumer computer 12, where the customized advertisement 30 is displayed within the electronic page sent to the consumer computer” (col 20, line 64-col 21, line 5).

Goldhaber discloses drag and drop content:

“(59) The World Wide Web allows anyone to maintain public "home pages" that are visible to all, and are accessible to all with optional name-password access restrictions. The system provided by the present invention adds the capability of maintaining private home pages that are accessible and visible only to their owners. Another example feature of these pages is the capability of "dragging and dropping" content between one's private and public home pages” (col 8, lines 50-57).

Goldhaber discloses rewarding a user for a wide range of activities related to the note/information/advertising such as providing information, downloading the ad, viewing the content, interacting with content, taking a quiz, etc (col 7, lines 20-62).

Goldhaber discloses transferring/sending/downloading information/note/advertisement content to the user computer (Fig. 4 and below):

“(10) The consumer has an incentive to do this because she knows that this action will transfer compensation or some other incentive represented by the CyberCoin icon 62 to her credit. Clicking on this CyberCoin 62 may institute an automatic retrieval, over network 102, of the ad information the CyberCoin is associated with (col 11, lines 19-25);

(18) This consumer interest profile 124 information can be used by advertisers 62 to target advertisements selectively to certain consumers and not to others (e.g., teenage boys can be sent skateboard ads, mothers can be sent children's clothing ads, retirees can be sent

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conservative investment information, golfers can be sent golf product ads, etc.). In the case of direct payment using digital cash, consumer database 120 may also include a digital cash repository 126 as discussed above (col 12, lines 29-38);

[Claim 2] (a) supplying said negatively priced information from said information provider to said attention broker computer; and

(b) selectively delivering the negatively priced information via the computer network from the attention broker computer to the personal computer.

3. A method as in claim 2 wherein supplying step (a) comprises transmitting the negatively priced information from a computer associated with said information provider over the network to said attention broker computer (col 22, lines 1-10);

(76) Agent 110 may present the user's interest profile 124 to attention brokerage servers 106 so as to allow the servers to attempt to match ads within their repertoires 140 with the consumer's interest profile, or in another embodiment, the software agent 110 may maintain the interest profile 124 as confidential and perform the matching itself based on ad profile criteria presented by the attention brokerage servers 106. When matches are found, the attention brokerage servers 106 may deliver the matching ads to the consumer's computer 104, or agent 110 may retrieve the ads. Alternatively, the software agent 110 may retrieve a "thumbnail" brief summary of the ads and display them on the consumer's computer display (see FIG. 11). In this example, each "thumbnail description" of an ad can be displayed by consumer computer 104 with an associated CyberCoin icon 62;

(77) As explained in connection with FIG. 4, when a consumer "clicks" on the associated CyberCoin icon 62, this may initiate retrieval of the associated advertisement

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described in the "thumbnail description" and display of the advertisement on the consumer's computer 104. The advertisement display may ask the consumer questions or otherwise require consumer interaction to ensure the consumer has paid attention to the advertisement. Upon successful completion of this process, an amount of digital currency may be deposited into the consumer's digital cash repository 126, or alternatively, the consumer's account may be credited and the advertiser's account debited by financial clearinghouse computer 108" (col 15, line 55-col 16, line 17).

Additionally, as noted above in the rejection above, Goldhaber discloses the user being rewarded for a wide range of activities related to a note/content/message/advertising. And, Goldhaber discloses that the user viewing the content can be paid or a payee for content viewing or activity.

And, Angles further discloses that a fourth party, Internet providers, can be paid for activities related to the viewing of advertisements (col 4, lines 23-46).

Also, Goldhaber discloses providing payment to a third party:

"[Claim]22. A method as in claim 1 wherein the user has at least one account associated therewith, and the method further includes performing at least one electronic financial transaction that has the effect of depositing value into said account.

[Claim] 25. A method as in claim 22 wherein the financial transaction performing step comprises modifying a notational account held by a third party on behalf of the user".

Hence, the disclosures of Angles and Goldhaber disclose that any one of numerous parties can receive compensation related to activities/viewing of a note/content/message/advertising. The parties disclosed can include content providers, content viewers, advertisers, service providers, Internet service providers, banking providers, financial

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holding accounts, financial providers. Also, note that Goldhaber discloses that the parties can be a payer or payee.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made that a third party which is distinct from a second party can be paid or pay based on the activity. One would have been motivated to do this in order to better provide a source of revenue to cover costs.

Also, Angles further discloses the user being credited or debited related to activities or content or goods or services (col 6, lines 15-25).

Angles further discloses the user receiving content without having received a webpage (col 23, lines 27-35; Fig. 11, item 44). Note in Angles that the advertising can be stored separate from a webpage and received by the user without having received a webpage. Also, note that the Applicant's claims, claim 86 for example, state the note/advertising is downloaded separate from a webpage. However, the claim(s) are silent in regards to whether the note/advertising is displayed in relation to a webpage or not. Also, the Applicant's Specification supports the note/advertising being displayed in relation to a webpage (Applicant's Specification Paragraph [22]).

Also, Goldhaber discloses a wide range of content, transmitting varying content, and that content can be transmitted/downloaded separate from a webpage or that content can be transmitted/downloaded without utilizing the cut or copy operation or without downloading a webpage (Fig. 2; Fig. 3; col 10, lines 9-59; and below):

“[Claim] 3. A method as in claim 2 wherein supplying step (a) comprises transmitting the negatively priced information from a computer associated with said information provider over the network to said attention broker computer.

[Claim] 40. A method as in claim 1 wherein said computer network comprises at least

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one physical computer network connected to at least one other physical computer network by at least one routing device; and wherein at least one of steps (1) through (6) includes the step of transmitting digital data from a device connected to the first physical network to a device connected to the second physical network via said routing device.

[Claim] 85. A method as in claim 82 wherein the method further includes the step of supplying information from at least one information provider to the personal computer via at least one distribution channel in addition to the computer network, including at least one of cable television, broadcast television, distributed physical storage media such as CD-ROM, and on-line systems”.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to add Goldhaber’s wide range of content, varying ways of providing content to a user, and both paying and receiving payment related to content to Angles’ providing content, goods, and service to a user and the user being credited or debited. One would have been motivated to do this in order to provide the user more ways of receiving content of interest.

Response to Arguments

3. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-76 and 78-86 have been considered but are not found persuasive.

On page 24 of the Applicant’s Amendment dated 1/30/06, Applicant states that, “neither Angles. . .nor Goldhaber discloses or suggest providing payment to a third party based upon an activity arising out of the content of a note. . .”.

However, as noted above in the rejection above, Goldhaber discloses the user being rewarded for a wide range of activities related to a note/content/message/advertising. And, Goldhaber discloses that the user viewing the content can be paid or a payee for content viewing or activity.

And, Angles further discloses that a fourth party, Internet providers, can be paid for activities related to the viewing of advertisements (col 4, lines 23-46).

Also, Goldhaber discloses providing payment to a third party:

“[Claim]22. A method as in claim 1 wherein the user has at least one account associated therewith, and the method further includes performing at least one electronic financial transaction that has the effect of depositing value into said account.

[Claim] 25. A method as in claim 22 wherein the financial transaction performing step comprises modifying a notational account held by a third party on behalf of the user”.

Hence, the disclosures of Angles and Goldhaber disclose that any one of numerous parties can receive compensation related to activities/viewing of a note/content/message/advertising. The parties disclosed can include content providers, content viewers, advertisers, service providers, Internet service providers, banking providers, financial holding accounts, financial providers. Also, note that Goldhaber discloses that the parties can be a payer or payee.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made that a third party which is distinct from a second party can be paid or pay based on the activity. One would have been motivated to do this in order to better provide a source of revenue to cover costs.

On page 25, Applicant states that not cutting or copying and not downloading a webpage are critical features.

However, Angles further discloses the user being credited or debited related to activities or content or goods or services (col 6, lines 15-25).

Angles further discloses the user receiving content without having received a webpage (col 23, lines 27-35; Fig. 11, item 44). Note in Angles that the advertising can be stored separate from a webpage and received by the user without having received a webpage. Also, note that the Applicant's claims, claim 86 for example, state the note/advertising is downloaded separate from a webpage. However, the claim(s) are silent in regards to whether the note/advertising is displayed in relation to a webpage or not. Also, the Applicant's Specification supports the note/advertising being displayed in relation to a webpage (Applicant's Specification Paragraph [22]).

Also, Goldhaber discloses a wide range of content, transmitting varying content, and that content can be transmitted/downloaded separate from a webpage or that content can be transmitted/downloaded without utilizing the cut or copy operation or without downloading a webpage (Fig. 2; Fig. 3; col 10, lines 9-59; and below):

“[Claim] 3. A method as in claim 2 wherein supplying step (a) comprises transmitting the negatively priced information from a computer associated with said information provider over the network to said attention broker computer.

[Claim] 40. A method as in claim 1 wherein said computer network comprises at least one physical computer network connected to at least one other physical computer network by at least one routing device; and wherein at least one of steps (1) through (6) includes the step of transmitting digital data from a device connected to the first physical network to a device connected to the second physical network via said routing device.

[Claim] 85. A method as in claim 82 wherein the method further includes the step of supplying information from at least one information provider to the personal computer via at least one distribution channel in addition to the computer network, including at least one of cable television, broadcast television, distributed physical storage media such as CD-ROM, and on-line systems”.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to add Goldhaber's wide range of content, varying ways of providing content to a user, and both paying and receiving payment related to content to Angles' providing

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content, goods, and service to a user and the user being credited or debited. One would have been motivated to do this in order to provide the user more ways of receiving content of interest.

Also, Examiner notes from Applicant's Specification (20020143618) that the 'note' of the Applicant's claims can take a variety of forms including advertising:

"[0022] In accordance with the present invention, one or more of the content providers 12A, 12B, 12C, . . . , 12n may carry web pages such as a web page 20 shown in FIG. 2. The web page 20 is meant to be exemplary only and may have any other format as desired. The web page 20 as shown in FIG. 2 has a plurality of elements such as a note 22, which may be a Software Post-it Note.RTM. provided by 3M, an advertising banner 24, a graphic 26, and text 28. The web page 20 may be provided by the content provider who posts the web page 20, or the web page 20 may be provided by third parties who may or may not pay the content provider to offer the web page 20. Alternatively, third parties may or may not pay the content provider to simply add material to the content provider's own web page. As is known, re-direct URLs may be embedded in the advertising banner 24, the graphic 26, and/or the text 28 in order to re-direct the content recipient to other web pages posted by the content provider who posts the web page 20 or to the web pages of other content providers".

Examiner further notes that it is the Applicant's claims as stated in the Applicant's claims that are being rejected with the prior art. Also, although the claims are interpreted in light of the specification, limitations from the specification are not read into the claims. See *In re Van Geuns*, 988 F.2d 1181, 26 USPQ2d 1057 (Fed. Cir. 1993). And, Examiner notes that claims are given their broadest reasonable construction. See *In re Hyatt*, 211 F.3d 1367, 54 USPQ2d 1664 (Fed. Cir. 2000).

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Examiner notes that while specific references were made to the prior art, it is actually also the prior art in its entirety and the combination of the prior art in its entirety that is being referred to. Also, one cannot show nonobviousness by attacking references individually where the rejections are based on combinations of references. See *In re Keller*, 642 F.2d 413, 208 USPQ 871 (CCPA 1981); *In re Merck & Co.*, 800 F.2d 1091, 231 USPQ 375 (Fed. Cir. 1986).

Conclusion

THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL. Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).


A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Arthur Duran whose telephone number is (571) 272-6718. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon- Fri, 8:00-4:00.

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If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Eric Stamber can be reached on (571) 272-6724. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Arthur Duran', is positioned above the printed name.

Arthur Duran
Primary Examiner
2/14/2006